

Celebrating life daily in Norfolk!

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Supporting Important Partners in Our Neighborhoods - Schools!

Residents on the Southside are celebrating with Campostella Elementary School's Seaperch Underwater Robotics Team for their success at a regional competition in which they were the only elementary school team competing against middle and high school teams. Their victory is especially important to Southside residents who advocated to keep the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus in Campostella Elementary School because, as resident and advocate Barrett Hicks says, "Given the proper tools, our children can and will exceed expectations."

In addition to supporting Campostella Elementary School, residents from various neighborhoods supported our schools last week as they volunteered at the Pre-K and Kindergarten Round Up events that were held at each of the five Norfolk Public Schools high schools. The purpose of the events was to encourage and support families as they prepare their children for preschool and kindergarten. Thanks to a combined effort between Norfolk Public Schools, the City of Norfolk, the United Way of South Hampton Roads, and Norfolk residents, the Round Up events were a huge success - registering an average of 300 students at each event!

Many other neighborhoods are also actively partnering with their local public schools. Interested in learning more about how your neighborhood can partner with Norfolk Public Schools? Visit <http://www.supportnps.org/support.html>.

For more information on how you can work with your neighbors to strengthen your neighborhood, visit <http://www.norfolk.gov/index.aspx?NID=567>.

Learn and Participate!

Join us for RiverFest this Weekend!

Join your neighbors at Lafayette RiverFest 2013 on **April 27 from 10:00AM-4:00PM** along the waterfront **between the 600 and 700 blocks of Mayflower Road**. For more information visit <http://elizabethriver.org/lafayetteriverfest/>.

Bike Month is Right Around the Corner

Norfolk Bike Month is a community celebration of biking as an economical, environmentally friendly form of recreation that enhances overall health. Bike rides and a bike safety rodeo are scheduled for neighborhoods around the City. Not only is it an opportunity to meet new neighbors and see the beauty of some of Norfolk's neighborhoods from a different perspective, the first 500 people to pre-register online for one of the events will receive a free Norfolk Bike Month t-shirt, too! Learn more about Bike Month and register for rides here: <http://www.norfolkbikemonth.com/index.html>

Calling All Who are Interested in Making Norfolk a Pedestrian-Friendly City

A follow up to the Norfolk Walking Action Workshop in March will be held on Tuesday, May 7 from 6:00-7:00PM at the Norview Community Center. Join us to talk about the results of the March workshop, how we can collaborate to tackle our initiatives and how you can play a role!

SCOPE Your Future in the World of Registered Apprenticeships

Looking to brush up on career skills? Looking to start a new career? Join us on May 23 at the Norfolk Scope Arena from 9:00AM to Noon for career workshops in the Exhibition Hall. If you looking for a new career, come back from 4:00-8:00PM for an Apprenticeship Expo. Both the workshops and the expo are free and open to the public. For more information and to register, go to http://www.norfolkdevelopment.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=201&Itemid=253.

Celebrating Youth in Our Communities

Encourage the youth ages 13-19 in your neighborhood to attend I AM HEAR: Music Made Simple on

Thursday, April 25 from 6:00-8:00PM at the Vivian C. Mason Arts & Technology Center for Teens. The event, hosted by the Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Department, includes a concert, music studio workshop, and a backyard BBQ - all for free! For information on additional programs for teens, visit:

<http://www.norfolk.gov/index.aspx?NID=919>

Healthy Kids Day and YMCA Job Fair at the Y on Granby

These free events will take place on April 27 from 1:00-4:00PM in the parking lot of Garden of Prayer #3 on Omohundro Avenue across from the Y on Granby.

Norfolk's Neighborhood Network TV-48

In addition to the weekly air schedule, find the latest Norfolk Perspectives, Norfolk News Now, Council Meetings and more here: <http://www.norfolk.gov/tv48/>

Build and Improve!

Missed The Better Block Project?

Relive the exciting event with this short video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FC4ML0-Qb6k&list=UUp20-oOitgfeAgxU34S-tPA&index=7>

To Learn More about the Projects Underway throughout the City

Click on: <http://www.norfolk.gov/DocumentCenter/View/670>

Training Exercise on EVMC Campus

On April 25 from 9:00-11:00AM, Eastern Virginia Medical Center will be participating in an emergency training exercise. During this time, you may see and hear significant city response like lights and sirens from first responders. **There is no need for concern. This is a drill to test public safety and security, communications, and incident management skills.** All city roads will be open with the exception of Children's Lane, which is on the medical campus between Olney Road and Raleigh Avenue in front of Children's Hospital. People who need to reach the CHKD Emergency Room can still park in the garage located on Raleigh Avenue.

April is Pothole Repair Month

Login to RequestTracker on the City's website to report potholes in your neighborhood. Be sure to include either the closest address or the nearest intersection to where the pothole is located. Report potholes here: <http://www.norfolk.gov/requesttracker.aspx>

City Council

City Council is holding public hearings on the Proposed FY2014 Budget at Granby High School at 6:00PM on Wednesday, April 24 and Wednesday, May 1. The Budget is available for review online here: <http://www.norfolk.gov/index.aspx?NID=2027>.

For the latest City Council and Committee meeting agenda and minutes, visit:
http://www.norfolk.gov/city_hall/meetings.asp

City Planning Commission

The City Planning Commission consists of seven members who are appointed by the City Council and are responsible for the review of land use and zoning matters in the City. The Commission makes recommendations to City Council who are responsible for making a final decision. The City Planning Commission is also responsible for the development of the City's General Plan, *PlaNorfolk 2030*, which is a plan for land use and development in Norfolk.

For the latest City Planning Commission meeting agenda, applications, staff reports, and results, visit:
http://www.norfolk.gov/Planning/city_planning_commission.asp

Board of Zoning Appeals

The Board of Zoning Appeals hears and decides appeals where there may be an error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the Zoning Administrator in the administration or enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance.

For the latest Board of Zoning Appeals meeting agenda, applications, and results, visit:
http://www.norfolk.gov/Planning/board_of_zoning_appeals.asp

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